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14 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
15 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

16
17 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, Plaintiff,
18 v.
19 MARC DAVIS, Defendant.

20 CASE NO. 1:21-MJ-00032 SAB
21 STIPULATION REGARDING EXCLUDABLE
22 TIME PERIODS UNDER SPEEDY TRIAL ACT;
23 FINDINGS AND ORDER
24
25 DATE: July 16, 2021
26 TIME: 2:00 p.m.
27 COURT: Hon. Erica P. Grosjean

28
29 This case is set for a preliminary hearing on July 16, 2021. The parties agree and stipulate to
30 continue the preliminary hearing until July 30, 2021. The parties are engaged in discussions and further
31 investigation related to a potential pre-indictment resolution, and need additional time to come to a
32 conclusion. On April 17, 2020, this Court issued General Order 617, which suspends all jury trials in
33 the Eastern District of California scheduled to commence before June 15, 2020, and allows district
34 judges to continue all criminal matters to a date after June 1. On May 13, 2020, this Court issued
35 General Order 618, which suspends all jury trials in the Eastern District of California until further
36 notice, and allows district judges to continue all criminal matters. This and previous General Orders
37 were entered to address public health concerns related to COVID-19.

38 Pursuant to F.R.Cr.P. 5.1(c) and (d), a preliminary hearing must be held “no later than 14 days
39 after initial appearance if the defendant is in custody,” unless the defendant consents and there is a
40 “showing of good cause”, or if the defendant does not consent and there is a “showing that extraordinary

1 circumstances exist and justice requires the delay.” Here, the defendant consents and there is good
 2 cause.

3 Although the General Orders address the district-wide health concern, the Supreme Court has
 4 emphasized that the Speedy Trial Act’s end-of-justice provision “counteract[s] substantive
 5 openendedness with procedural strictness,” “demand[ing] on-the-record findings” in a particular case.
 6 *Zedner v. United States*, 547 U.S. 489, 509 (2006). “[W]ithout on-the-record findings, there can be no
 7 exclusion under” § 3161(h)(7)(A). *Id.* at 507. Moreover, any such failure cannot be harmless. *Id.* at
 8 509; *see also United States v. Ramirez-Cortez*, 213 F.3d 1149, 1153 (9th Cir. 2000) (explaining that a
 9 judge ordering an ends-of-justice continuance must set forth explicit findings on the record “either orally
 10 or in writing”).

11 Based on the plain text of the Speedy Trial Act—which *Zedner* emphasizes as both mandatory
 12 and inexcusable—General Orders 611, 612, and 617 require specific supplementation. Ends-of-justice
 13 continuances are excludable only if “the judge granted such continuance on the basis of his findings that
 14 the ends of justice served by taking such action outweigh the best interest of the public and the
 15 defendant in a speedy trial.” 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A). Moreover, no such period is excludable unless
 16 “the court sets forth, in the record of the case, either orally or in writing, its reason or finding that the
 17 ends of justice served by the granting of such continuance outweigh the best interests of the public and
 18 the defendant in a speedy trial.” *Id.*

19 The General Orders exclude delay in the “ends of justice.” 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7) (Local Code
 20 T4). Although the Speedy Trial Act does not directly address continuances stemming from pandemics,
 21 natural disasters, or other emergencies, this Court has discretion to order a continuance in such
 22 circumstances. For example, the Ninth Circuit affirmed a two-week ends-of-justice continuance
 23 following Mt. St. Helens’ eruption. *Furlow v. United States*, 644 F.2d 764 (9th Cir. 1981). The court
 24 recognized that the eruption made it impossible for the trial to proceed. *Id.* at 767-68; *see also United*
 25 *States v. Correa*, 182 F. Supp. 326, 329 (S.D.N.Y. 2001) (citing *Furlow* to exclude time following the
 26 September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks and the resultant public emergency). The coronavirus is posing a
 27 similar, albeit more enduring, barrier to the prompt proceedings mandated by the statutory rules.

28 In light of the societal context created by the foregoing, this Court should consider the following

1 case-specific facts in finding excludable delay appropriate in this particular case under the ends-of-
2 justice exception, § 3161(h)(7) (Local Code T4). If continued, this Court should designate a new date
3 for the preliminary hearing. *United States v. Lewis*, 611 F.3d 1172, 1176 (9th Cir. 2010) (noting any
4 pretrial continuance must be “specifically limited in time”).

5 **STIPULATION**

6 Plaintiff United States of America, by and through its counsel of record, and defendant, by and
7 through defendant’s counsel of record, hereby stipulate as follows:

8 1. By previous order, this matter was set for preliminary hearing on July 16, 2021.

9 2. By this stipulation, defendant now moves to continue the preliminary hearing until **July**
10 **30, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.** and to exclude time between July 16, 2021, and July 30, 2021, under Local Code
11 T4.

12 3. The parties agree and stipulate, and request that the Court find the following:

13 a) The government has represented that initial discovery associated with this case
14 consists primarily of reports, criminal history, recordings and photographs. The government has
15 provided this discovery to defendant, including most recently a series of photographs and body
16 camera recordings.

17 b) The parties are discussing a potential pre-indictment resolution, and need
18 additional time to proceed with those discussions.

19 c) Counsel for defendant desires additional time to review the discovery, consult
20 with her client, conduct further investigation, and discuss a possible resolution with the
21 government.

22 d) Counsel for defendant believes that failure to grant the above-requested
23 continuance would deny him the reasonable time necessary for effective preparation, taking into
24 account the exercise of due diligence.

25 e) The government does not object to the continuance.

26 f) Pursuant to F.R.Cr.P. 5.1(c) and (d), a preliminary hearing must be held “no later
27 than 14 days after initial appearance if the defendant is in custody,” unless the defendant
28 consents and there is a “showing of good cause”. Here, the defendant consents and there is good

1 cause as set forth herein.

2 g) Based on the above-stated findings, the ends of justice served by continuing the
3 case as requested outweigh the interest of the public and the defendant in an indictment or trial
4 within the original dates prescribed by the Speedy Trial Act.

5 h) For the purpose of computing time under the Speedy Trial Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3161,
6 et seq., within which an indictment must be filed and within which a trial must commence, the
7 time period of July 16, 2021 to July 30, 2021, inclusive, is deemed excludable pursuant to 18
8 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A), B(iv) [Local Code T4] because it results from a continuance granted by
9 the Court at defendant's request on the basis of the Court's finding that the ends of justice served
10 by taking such action outweigh the best interest of the public and the defendant in a speedy
11 indictment/trial.

12 **[Remainder of page intentionally left blank.]**

1 4. Nothing in this stipulation and order shall preclude a finding that other provisions of the
2 Speedy Trial Act dictate that additional time periods are excludable from the period within which an
3 indictment must be filed and a trial must commence.

4 IT IS SO STIPULATED.

5
6 Dated: July 9, 2021

7 PHILLIP A. TALBERT
8 Acting United States Attorney

9 _____
10 /s/ KIMBERLY A. SANCHEZ
11 KIMBERLY A. SANCHEZ
12 Assistant United States Attorney

13 Dated: July 9, 2021

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15 /s/ J AYA C. GUPTA
16 J AYA C. GUPTA
17 Counsel for Defendant
18 MARC DAVIS

FINDINGS AND ORDER

19 For the reasons described in the parties' stipulation and for good cause shown, the preliminary
20 hearing shall be continued until **July 30, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.**, and time will be excluded between July 16,
21 2021, and July 30, 2021, under Local Code T4 in the interests of justice.

22 IT IS SO ORDERED.

23 Dated: July 12, 2021

24 _____
25 /s/ Eric P. Groj
26 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE